



From the Early Steps State Office

Fall 2011

Dear Friends,

The Individualized Family Support Plan (IFSP) process is an *ongoing* opportunity for you and others on your team to discuss your family's priorities and develop outcomes to enhance your ability to meet the developmental needs of your child. This includes determining eligibility and continuing eligibility for Early Steps.

Some children in Early Steps are found eligible based on the opinion of professionals when the scores on the child's evaluation do not meet Early Steps eligibility criteria. For those children, the IFSP team, which includes the family, will authorize services for up to 6 months to address the outcomes identified. At that time and with parent consent, the IFSP team will need to reconvene to determine if the child should continue to receive services in Early Steps.

The IFSP process is individualized and as mentioned above, ongoing. This means your child's eligibility will be assessed by your team on an annual basis to determine if your child continues to need Early Steps services.

Remember – every member of your Individualized Family Support Plan team, including you, has a very important role. Your service coordinator will continue to work closely with your team throughout the eligibility and IFSP process.

Sincerest Regards,

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